

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, before I announce the next week's schedule, I would like to just take a moment on behalf of myself, and I daresay on behalf of all of us on this side of the aisle, to express our deep condolences to the family of GEORGE BROWN. He was, for us, a treasured colleague, a fine man, a gentleman, and a good legislator. The body was richer for his having been here, and the memories we have of our time in this body will be richer for our having had the privilege of serving with him.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to the schedule, the House has concluded legislative business for the week. I want to thank all the Members for their work this week. It was a difficult week, with three appropriations bills under the 5-minute rule, which kept us late. Very late.

And, incidentally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the staff, the floor staff especially, for their long hours. Nevertheless, it allowed us to pass three appropriations bills, keeping us on track to get our key appropriations bills all passed before the August district work period, and that is the kind of progress we are all looking for. So I extend my personal appreciation to all the Members and all the staff for their good work, and especially to the appropriators for their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, next week the House will meet on Monday, July 19, at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider a number of bills under suspension of the rules, a list of which will be distributed to all Members' offices this afternoon.

On Monday evening, after suspensions, we will take up H.R. 2415, the American Embassy Security Act. This bill will be considered under a structured rule which passed the House last night. The rule provides for substantial debate on many amendments, so we will complete this bill later in the week.

Members should note that we expect votes on suspension bills and amendments to the American Embassy Security Act after 6 p.m. on Monday evening, July 19.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of next week, the House will consider the following bills, all of which are subject to rules: H.R. 1995, the Teacher Empowerment Act; H.R. 2488, the Financial Freedom Act of 1999; The Department of Defense Appropriations Act; and H.R. 1074, the Regulatory Right to Know Act of 1999.

Also, Members should note that on Thursday, the House will not meet until 11 a.m. in order to allow Members to attend the ceremony commemorating the valiant service of Capitol Police Officers Chestnut and Gibson, who died 1 year ago while serving to defend this Capitol. I know that many of our Members will want to attend this.

As my colleagues can see, this will be another very busy week for the House. I am happy, however, to let Members

know we will complete votes on Thursday, July 22, by 6 p.m. and that the House will not be in session on Friday, July 23.

□ 1430

I know that our Members will make good use of that time in their district for that 3-day weekend.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT) the Speaker of the House.

The SPEAKER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that the House will do its very best to accommodate the family of the gentleman from California (Mr. BROWN) in the arrangements, and we look forward to seeing what those arrangements will be.

I just want to join all my colleagues in this House to pay our deepest respect to a very, very fine gentleman who represented his district, who represented the ideas that he felt were very, very important to him and this country, and who served on the Committee on Science.

I just want to say that we will look forward to see what those arrangements are and abide by what the wishes of the family will be.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I ask the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), the majority leader, if he can tell us what day the tax bill will be on the floor of the House?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to respond to the gentleman.

The tax bill should be expected to be on the floor on Wednesday. That is the day for which it is scheduled.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask the gentleman, what day will the teacher empowerment act be on the floor?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would continue to yield, we expect to see the teacher empowerment bill on the floor on Tuesday.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask the gentleman, do we expect any late nights next week, any 11 o'clock and midnight nights?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for asking. I am sure the entire body thanks the gentleman for asking.

We have only one appropriations bill scheduled during next week. It is under the 5-minute rule. With those bills, it becomes difficult to manage the time. So that, I think I can say with total confidence, certainly not like this week we have just endured. And I expect, frankly, no real serious late nights next week. I think our work will be managed in a much more comfortable time zone.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am sure all of our colleagues will be very grateful and appreciative.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will continue to yield, our colleagues and their families will; and we will work hard for that.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JULY 19, 1999

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BOSWELL (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, after 11:30 a.m., on account of official business.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal business.

Mr. ORTIZ (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of medical reasons.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee did on this day present to the President, for his approval, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 775. To establish certain procedures for civil actions brought for damages relating to the failure of any device or system to process or otherwise deal with the transition from the year 1999 to the year 2000, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 252, I move that the House do now adjourn in memory of the late Hon. GEORGE E. BROWN, Jr.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, and pursuant to House Resolution 252, the House adjourned in memory of the late Hon. GEORGE E. BROWN, Jr. until Monday, July 19, 1999, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.